DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health Participates in 2012 Statewide Medical and Health Exercise

San Bernardino. The County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health in partnership with the Inland Counties Emergency Medical Agency (ICEMA), and the Office of Emergency Services (OES) is coordinating the 2012 California Statewide Medical and Health Functional Exercise Program on November 15, 2012.

The purpose of this exercise is to provide an opportunity for local preparedness and response partners to evaluate current response concepts, emergency plans, and capabilities to respond to a medical or public health emergency. The exercise will focus on the capabilities of communications, sharing information, disseminating intelligence, and responding to a medical surge during a loss of power due to an earthquake.

The scenario will test the County's response and ability to maintain and provide services to the community. Power loss for medical and health providers is a significant concern and can further inhibit a community's response to such an event.

The objectives of the functional exercise are to:

- Test plans and procedures to determine the capability to sustain operations and services during a power outage due to an earthquake.
- Test the ability to process resource requesting utilizing the Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) Program.
- Test methods for redundant communications to communicate effectively during an emergency.
- Test incident management within the Operational Area by activating and operating a Command/Operations Center.
- Test risk communication messaging and routing as it relates to a power outage.
- Test the ability of the County to respond to a healthcare surge.

These types of exercises provide an opportunity for testing and evaluating public health and other emergency response capacities within the County of San Bernardino.

For more information, please contact the County of San Bernardino Department of Public Health, Preparedness and Response Program at (909) 252-4406.

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